National Transportation Safety Board FACTUAL REPORT AVIATION

NTSB ID: CEN11FA436 Aircraft Registration Number: N773RY

Occurrence Date: 06/30/2011 Most Critical Injury: Fatal

Occurrence Type: Accident Investigated By: NTSB

Location/Time

Nearest City/Place State Zip Code Local Time Time Zone
Ottumwa IA 52501 1733 CDT

Airport Proximity: On Airport/Airstrip Distance From Landing Facility: 0

Aircraft Information Summary

Aircraft Manufacturer Model/Series Type of Aircraft
Ray Aerial Spraying 773 Racer Airplane

Revenue Sightseeing Flight: No Air Medical Transport Flight: No

Narrative

Brief narrative statement of facts, conditions and circumstances pertinent to the accident/incident:

*** Note: NTSB investigators either traveled in support of this investigation or conducted a significant amount of investigative work without any travel, and used data obtained from various sources to prepare this aircraft accident report. ***

HISTORY OF FLIGHT

On June 30, 2011, about 1733 central daylight time, an amateur-built Ray Aerial Spraying model 773 Racer, N773RY, impacted terrain and a tree while returning and attempting to land at the Ottumwa Regional Airport(OTM), Ottumwa, Iowa. The pilot was fatally injured. The airplane was registered to Ray Aerial Spraying and was being operated by a commercial pilot under the provisions of 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91 as a personal flight. Visual flight rules (VFR) conditions prevailed for the flight which was not operating on a flight plan. The flight originated about 1730 from OTM and was en route to the pilot's private airstrip in Hedrick, Iowa.

A witness reported that the pilot flew the airplane to OTM on June 28, 2011. Upon leaving, the pilot was unable to start the airplane and told the witness that he would return later to get the airplane. A receipt indicated that the airplane was fueled with 30.1 gallons of 100LL aviation gasoline on June 28, 2011. Another receipt for parts required to repair the engine starter was dated June 30, 2011.

A witness to the accident reported that he had talked with the pilot for about an hour prior to the accident flight. They reportedly discussed the accident airplane's glide characteristics in the event of an engine failure. The pilot said if the engine were to quit that he would have to put the airplane into a dive and get it on the ground. The witness said that after their conversation the pilot took off in the accident airplane and performed two low passes down the runway and then departed the area.

The same witness reported that later, he was in flight on downwind for runway 22 when he saw the accident airplane approaching from the distance. The accident airplane was above traffic pattern altitude and overflew runway 22. The airplane proceeded past the departure end of runway 22 and turned left onto what the witness believed was a crosswind for runway 22. When the airplane was on the crosswind leg the witness saw the nose of the airplane pitch down and descended and maneuvered toward the airport. The airplane subsequently struck a farm field and then a tree. A postimpact fire ensued. The witness could not hear the accident airplane's engine due to the engine noise from the ultralight he was flying.

PERSONNEL INFORMATION

The pilot held a commercial pilot certificate with airplane single-engine land, single-engine sea, multiengine land, and instrument airplane ratings. He held a second class airman medical certificate issued on July 7, 2010. The pilot also held a mechanic certificate with airframe and powerplant ratings. A review of pilot logbook records indicated that he had accumulated 6,581.8

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Narrative (Continued)

hours of total flight time including 6,381.8 hours in single engine airplanes. A logbook entry indicated that the pilot's most recent flight review was conducted on July 7, 2010. Two entries were found within the logbook for flights in the accident airplane. The first entry, dated May 17, 2011, indicated that the first flight of the accident airplane was conducted on that date. The total time recorded in the pilot's logbook for the 2 flights in the accident airplane was 0.7 hours.

AIRCRAFT INFORMATION

The airplane was a single-seat amateur-built monoplane reminiscent of a 1930's air racer. The fuselage and tail surfaces of the airplane were constructed primarily of steel tubing with a fabric covering. The wings were constructed of wood with fabric covered steel tubing used for the aileron structures. The airplane had a fixed conventional (tail-wheel) landing gear arrangement. The airplane had a wing span of 21.5 feet and 98.57 square feet of wing area.

A Ranger model V-770-11 engine powered the airplane. The cylinder configuration was a "V" arrangement with 12 cylinders mounted on the crankcase in two banks of six cylinders. The engine was rated to produce 520 horsepower.

METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION

At 1753, the recorded weather conditions at OTM were: Wind 190 at 15 knots; 10 miles visibility; clear skies; temperature 33 degrees C; dew point 25 degrees C; altimeter setting 29.82 inches of mercury.

AIRPORT INFORMATION

The OTM airport was located about 5 miles northwest of the city of Ottumwa, Iowa at an elevation of 845 feet above sea level. There was no operating control tower on the airport when the accident occurred. The airport had 2 intersecting runways. Runway 13/31 was 5,885 feet by 150 feet, and runway 4/22 was 4,600 feet by 100 feet. Both runways were hard surface paved runways.

WRECKAGE AND IMPACT INFORMATION

The airplane impacted a berm that bordered a farm field adjacent to the airport. The initial impact point was located about 650 feet southwest of the approach end of runway 31. The airplane's heading at the time of impact was about 15 degrees. A portion of the left wing was found near the initial impact point. The direction of travel and location of impact were consistent with an attempted return to the runway. After the initial impact the airplane travelled about 250 feet before coming to rest.

The fuselage aft of the pilot compartment and tail surfaces of the airplane remained intact except for fire damage to the fabric covering. The forward fuselage was separated from the aft section and displaced to the right. The forward fuselage coverings were consumed by fire. Both wings were almost completely consumed by fire with the exception of the ailerons and the main spar. The wooden main wing spar was charred but predominately intact. The spar remained attached to the fuselage.

Examination of the airplane's flight control system revealed no evidence of a preimpact failure or malfunction.

The airplane's engine was examined. Rotation, crankshaft continuity, accessory continuity, and valve train continuity were confirmed. The distributor caps were opened and no preimpact anomalies noted. The engine's magnetos produced spark on the output leads to the distributors when the engine was rotated by hand. The examination of the engine and ignition system revealed no evidence of a preimpact failure or malfunction.

The fuel system of the airplane was consumed by the postimpact fire. The carburetor exhibited extensive fire damage. No determination could be made concerning preimpact operation of the carburetor.

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Narrative (Continued)

The fire was limited to the area immediately surrounding the main wreckage. No soot streaking on the aft fuselage or other evidence that the fire erupted in-flight was found.

MEDICAL AND PATHOLOGICAL INFORMATION

The pilot initially survived the accident but later succumbed to injuries sustained in the accident about 5 hours later. An autopsy was performed at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics on July 1, 2011. The cause of death was attributed to injuries received during the accident.

A Final Forensic Toxicology Fatal Accident Report found Lidocaine detected in the heart. Lidocaine is used as a local anesthetic and for the treatment of ventricular arrythmias. Updated on Oct 12 2012 6:11PM

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FACIDAL REPORT	Occui	TOTICE Date.	00/30/2011							
AVIATION	Occurrence Type: Accident									
Landing Facility/Approach Information										
Airport Name	Airport ID:	D: Airport Elevation Runway Us			Runway Length			Runway Width		
Ottumwa Regional Airport		ОТМ	845 Ft. MSL	_ 31	31 5885				150	
Runway Surface Type: Asphalt; Concrete										
Runway Surface Condition: Dry										
Approach/Arrival Flown: NONE										
VFR Approach/Landing: Forced Landing										
Aircraft Information										
Aircraft Manufacturer		Model	'Series			Serial Number				
Ray Aerial Spraying		773 F	Racer				001			
Airworthiness Certificate(s): Experimental (Special)									
Landing Gear Type: Tailwheel										
Amateur Built Acft? Yes Number of Seats:	Certifie	Certified Max Gross Wt.			LBS Numbe		er of Eng	r of Engines: 1		
Engine Type: Reciprocating	Engine Ma Fairchild	nufacturer: Ranger	Model/Series: V-770			Rated Power: 520 HP				
- Aircraft Inspection Information										
Type of Last Inspection	Date of Last Inspection Time S			nce Last Inspe	ection	Airframe	e Total Time			
Conditional						Ho	ours		2 Hours	
- Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) Information										
ELT Installed?/Type No ELT Operated? No ELT Aided in Locating Accident Site? No										
Owner/Operator Information										
Registered Aircraft Owner		Street A	oddress 15124 60th A	ve						
Ray Aerial Spraying				State						
Hedrick IA Street Address							IA	52563		
Operator of Aircraft		Calcoty	15124 60th A	ve						
Rex A. Yoakam	City Hedrick							Zip Code 52563		
Operator Does Business As:		0	perator Desigi	nator Co	ode:					
- Type of U.S. Certificate(s) Held: None										
Air Carrier Operating Certificate(s):										
Operating Certificate:			Operator Certifi	cate:						
Regulation Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: Gener	al Aviati	ion	•							
Type of Flight Operation Conducted: Personal										
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	AVIATI	Occurrence Type: Accident				1								
First Pilot	t Information													
Name City State Date of Birth Age														
On File					On File					0	n File	Or	ı File	60
Sex: M	Seat Occupied	: Single	Occ	cupational Pi	lot? No					Certific	ate Num	ber:	On File	
Certificate(s): Com	nmercial												
Airplane Rating(s): Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Sea														
Rotorcraft/Glider/LTA: None														
Instrument Rating(s): Airplane														
Instructor F	Rating(s): Non-	е												
Current Biennial Flight Review? 07/2010														
Medical Cert.: Class 2 Medical Cert. Status: With Waivers/Limitations Date of Last Medical Exam: 07/2010														
- Flight Tim	at Time Matrix All A/C This Make and Model Single Engine Mult-Engine Night Act						Actual	Instrument al Simulated		Rotorcraft		Glider	Lighter Than Air	
Total Time		6592	1	6382								\neg		
Pilot In Cor	mmand(PIC)													
Instructor														
Instruction	Received													
Last 90 Day	ys													
Last 30 Da	ys													
Last 24 Ho														
Seatbelt Used? Yes Shoulder Harness Used? Yes Toxicology Performed? Yes Second Pilot? N							id Pilot? No)						
Flight Pla	n/Itinerary													
Type of Flig	ght Plan Filed: N	one												
Departure Point							State	A	Airport Ide	Depa	arture	Time Zone		
Same as Accident/Incident Location							ОТМ		MTC	M 1730		CDT		CDT
Destination State Airport Identifier														
Hedrick							IA							
Type of Cle	earance: None													
Type of Air	space:													
Weather	Information													
Source of Wx Information:														
Unknown														
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AVIATION			Occu	Occurrence Type: Accident									
Weather	Information												
WOF ID	Observation Time	Time Zone	WOF E	WOF Elevation WOF Distance From Acc			m Acci	ident Site Direction From Accident S				ite	
ОТМ	1753	CDT	84	5 Ft. MSL	0 N					0 Deg. Mag.			
Sky/Lowes	st Cloud Condition: Clear	r				Ft. A	.GL	Condition of Light: Day					
Lowest Ceiling: None				Ft. AGL	Visib	oility:	10	0 SM Altimeter: 29.8		29.82	"Hg		
Temperature: 33 °C Dew Point:				°C Weat	her Cond	itions at Ac	Site: Visual (Conditio	ons				
Wind Direc	Wind Direction: 190 Wind Speed: 15 Wind				/ind Gusts: 20								
Visibility (F	Visibility (RVR): Ft. Visibility (RVV)			SM									
Precip and	d/or Obscuration:												
Accident	Information												
			Airoro	ircraft Fire: Ground				Aircraft Explosion Ground					
Aircraft Damage: Destroyed			AllCla	Aliciali File. Glound					DIOSIOIT (Giouria			
	I	T				1	_						
- Injury Su	mmary Matrix	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None	TOTAL	4						
First Pi	ilot	1				<u> </u>	1						
Second	d Pilot						4						
Studen	t Pilot						4						
Flight I	nstructor					ļ	4						
Check							4						
Flight E	Engineer					ļ	4						
	Attendants						4						
Other C							_						
Passer	ngers					<u> </u>	4						
- TOTAL A	ABOARD -	1					1						
Other C							4						
- GRAND	O TOTAL -	1					1						

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nistrative	

Investigator-In-Charge (IIC)

John M. Brannen

Additional Persons Participating in This Accident/Incident Investigation:

Dan Michaelson FAA- Des Moines FSDO Des Moines, IA